

(Feb. 1) In the afternoon, Sîd Ahmed Ibrahim Ahmed, Omdah of Barkal called with several [XXX?] and attendants. He had a brand new outer garment and a very dirty shirt. A nice-looking and decent seeming man. His father, who was tortured by the dervishes over a matter of hidden money, is still alive but not helpless. Sîd Ahmed was present when Mr. Budget dug the great hole south of Pyr. VI. He and his people rode out with me to the works and I showed them the stairways at which they expressed proper astonishment and admiration. Afterwards, Sîd Ahmed showed me a cave in the SE corner of Gebel Barkal which is said to extend as far as Dongola. It is only a vein of conglomerate (as noted above) which has been washed out. About 5 to 10 m in, the hold narrows considerably—perhaps a